

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated November 2, 2006. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that Claims 16-19 and 23-28 would be allowable if amended to overcome rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and to include limitations of the respective base claims and intervening claims. Claims 16-20 and 23-28 are currently pending in the application. Claims 11-15, 21-22 and 29 have been canceled and Claims 16, 17, 20, 23, 25, 27 and 28 have been amended. No new matter is believed to have been introduced by this amendment. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 11-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicants regard as the invention. Claims 11, 20, 21 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Telymonde et al. and Claims 12-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Telymonde et al. in view of Chappuis. Claims 11-15, 21-22 and 29 have been canceled and Claims 16, 17, 20, 23, 25, 27 and 28 have been amended per Examiner's recommendations. It is respectfully submitted that the rejections of Claims 16-20 and 23-28 should be withdrawn in view of the above amendments.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the claims in the present application, namely, Claims 16-20 and 23-28 are allowable over all of the art of record.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview may facilitate prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative at the number indicated below.

Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) that may become due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s), to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.

Respectfully submitted.



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1/26/07

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